

## Appendix L

### Glossary

**3-C Urbanized Areas:** A federally designated urbanized area with a core population greater than 50,000 which must establish a continuing, coordinated, comprehensive planning process. See also MPO.

**AASHTO:** American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials

**Alignment:** The course or direction along which a roadway, railway, runway, channel, or path is oriented.

**Approach:** The construction leading to a bridge, or an intersecting road, street, or driveway.

**Bikeway:** Any road, path, or way which in some manner is specifically designated as being open to bicycle travel, regardless of whether such facilities are designated for the exclusive use of bicycles or are to be shared with other transportation modes.

**By Formula:** Funds are distributed to different jurisdictions or programs according to a pre-calculated plan or formula outlined by statute. For example, Michigan Public Act 51 distributes Michigan Transportation Fund revenues by percentage between Michigan counties, cities, and MDOT.

**Capital Assistance:** Funds specifically designated for the purchase of capital equipment such as buses, garages, and depot buildings.

**Capital Preventive Maintenance (CPM):** A program for making improvements to a roadway or bridge in a timely manner to extend the life of a roadway/bridge and to prevent more costly repairs in the future.

**City Streets:** Roads under the jurisdiction of a city, town or village as designated by Michigan Public Act 51.

**Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990:** Federal legislation which outlines steps that must be taken to reduce emissions from vehicles, factories, and other pollution sources in areas identified as having the worst air pollution.

**Comprehensive Transportation Fund (CTF):** A fund derived from state gas tax, vehicle registration and other fees as authorized by Act 51, used for the provision of public transportation purposes.

**Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ):** A federal grant program to help states meet the requirements of the federal Clean Air Act. It funds programs and projects designed to reduce traffic congestion and their associated air pollution problems. Grants are made based on applications from state and local agencies. Most projects for this program are in MPO areas and can be found in the individual TIPs.

**Congestion Relief:** Solutions to traffic congestion that interferes with a transportation system's

acceptable performance.

**Corridor:** A strip of land between two points within which traffic, land use, environment, and other factors are evaluated for transportation purposes.

**Culverts:** A drainage structure, usually a concrete or metal tube under a roadway or embankment that is not classed as a bridge, carrying traffic over a stream, watercourse or opening.

**Deck Replacement:** Replacement of the floor of a bridge.

**Economically Depressed Communities:** Any community which qualifies as an "eligible distressed area" according to Public Act 215 and exhibits the following characteristics: unemployment and poverty rates higher than the state average, land value increases lower than the state average, a population decrease since the 1970 census, and eligibility for Neighborhood Enterprise Zone programs.

**Enhancement Program:** See Transportation Enhancement Program

**Early Preliminary Engineering (EPE):** Engineering and environmental studies to evaluate a transportation corridor and alternative road alignments within that corridor.

**Environmental Justice (EJ):** Federal policy based on the authority of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and implemented through Executive Order 12898. Its major goal is to ensure that no minority or low-income population suffers disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects due to any programs, policies, and activities undertaken by a federal agency or any agency receiving federal funds. As the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) does receive federal funding, the above-mentioned order applies to its programs, policies and activities.

**Federal Aviation Administration (FAA):** The federal agency responsible for collection and administration of federal aviation funds; oversees aviation service, safety and regulation as well as federal-aid eligible airport construction nationwide.

**Federal Highway Administration (FHWA):** The federal agency responsible for collection and distribution of federal highway funds; oversees the maintenance and construction of federal-aid eligible roads, streets, highways, bridges and non-motorized facilities.

**Federal Railroad Administration (FRA):** The federal agency responsible for railroad safety enforcement and assistance to local freight railroads.

**Federal Transit Administration (FTA):** The federal agency responsible for collection and distribution of federal transit funds; oversees the maintenance, operation and construction of federal-aid eligible transit systems including local and intercity bus and rail passenger infrastructure.

**General Program Accounts:** Consist of many small projects throughout the state that are not regionally significant. Projects include preventative maintenance (crack sealing, joint repair, bridge painting), highway safety (signal, sign, pavement markings, guardrail), preliminary engineering (project scoping, design), enhancement (non-motorized, landscaping, historic preservation projects,

run-off prevention) and rail/highway crossing improvements. Projects are not listed individually in the STIP/TIPs but the total cost of all GPA projects is included in the financial tables. Non-MPO or rural GPAs are also shown in the statewide section of the project list.

**Grading:** All construction operations between site clearing and paving. Grading includes all excavating, hauling, spreading, and compacting operations.

**Highway Capacity Improvements:** Improvements to a roadway to increase the volume and smooth traffic flow. Examples are adding lanes, improving intersections, and controlling access and turning movements.

**Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA):** A legislative initiative by the U.S. Congress that restructured funding for transportation programs. The Act strengthened the role of the Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) and regional planning commissions in funding decisions. It allowed competition among modes for federal funds. It broadened planning requirements and placed increased emphasis on public participation and transportation alternatives. Many of the concepts and programs were continued in the succeeding TEA-21 legislation passed in 1998.

**Intermodal:** Between, or including more than one mode of transportation; can apply to either passenger or freight transportation.

**Intermodal Connectivity:** The linkages among modes that ensure the ability of people or goods to move easily from one mode to another.

**Interstate Maintenance:** A Federal-aid program that provides funding for resurfacing, restoring, rehabilitating and reconstructing (4R) most routes on the Interstate System.

**Joint :** Breaks placed in concrete at regular intervals to allow for contraction and expansion of the road surface due to changes in temperature and use. Joints are installed perpendicular to the roadway to prevent cracking.

**MDOT:** Michigan Department of Transportation

**Metropolitan Area Boundary (MAB):** The boundary that delineates the area for which an Metropolitan Planning Organization has jurisdiction.

**Michigan Transportation Fund (MTF):** A fund derived from state gas tax, vehicle registration, and other fees as authorized by Michigan Public Act 51 of 1951, used for the maintenance, preservation and improvement of county roads, city streets and state highways.

**Mill:** Removing, by machine, the top layer of a bituminous roadway in preparation for resurfacing.

**Minimum Guarantee:** A federal program that provides funding to states based on equity considerations. These include specific shares of overall program funds and a minimum return on contributions to the Highway Account of the Highway Trust Fund.

**Modes:** A form or manner of transportation; includes motorized and non-motorized means.

**Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO):** An organization of government units, transportation providers and other agencies in a US Bureau of Census-designated Urbanized area with a core population of 50,000 or more and its contiguous area expected to become urbanized within 20 years. An MPO develops transportation plans and programs for the metropolitan area. It is required to carry out the transportation planning requirements of TEA-21 to be eligible for federal funds.

**National Highway System (NHS):** A federally designated highway system connecting major population centers, international border crossings, and specific intermodal facilities to meet national defense requirements and serve interstate and interregional travel. Also a Federal-aid program that funds improvements to NHS roads.

**Non-Motorized:** Any means of ground transportation that is not a motorized conveyance. This includes bicycling and pedestrian travel.

**Non-Motorized Trail:** A path or way designated for pedestrians, bicycles, and other non-motorized transportation modes.

**Off-road Bicycle Facilities:** Bicycle facilities that are within the highway right-of-way, but are separated from the automobile-traveled portion of road.

**Overlay:** A new surface over an existing roadway.

**Preliminary Engineering (PE):** Engineering, survey, and drafting work necessary to develop design plans for a transportation facility to the point that construction contracts can be initiated.

**Pulverize:** To break up pavement with a large mechanical hammer.

**Railroad Grade Crossing:** The general location where a railroad and a road or pedestrian path cross at the same level.

**Resurface:** Put a new layer of material on a road or path to restore surface quality and improve the ride quality.

**Right-of-Way (ROW):** The entire width between the boundary lines of every roadway, path, etc. publicly maintained when any part of it is open to the public use for vehicular travel.

**Rubblize:** To break up pavement with vibrating equipment.

**Rural Task Force:** Administrative unit established under ISTEA and continued in TEA-21 to distribute specific state and federal funds to road and transit projects. Each task force is a grouping of counties and includes representatives of the County Road Commissions, cities and villages, transit providers and Indian Tribal governments.

**Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2005: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU):** The federal law signed August 10, 2005 authorizing highway, highway safety, transit and other surface transportation programs for six years. Nationwide funding in the reauthorization bill totals \$286.9 billion over the 2004-09 period. The bill increases funding for

“donor” states like Michigan and creates several new programs: Borders, Truck Parking Facilities, Freight Intermodal Distribution, Highway Safety, High Risk Rural Roads and Safe Routes to Schools.

***Small Urban Areas (5-50 Cities):*** Urbanized areas with a population of 5,000 to 50,000 which makes them eligible to receive federal funding from a specific program for road or transit projects within its boundaries..

***State Long Range Plan (SLRP):*** A planning document required by TEA-21 with a 20-year planning horizon to provide statewide transportation policy and a guide for future transportation investment. It is revised every 3 to 5 years.

***State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP):*** A three year program of all road and transit transportation projects to be undertaken with federal funds, required by TEA-21 to be financially constrained, meet air quality conformity guidelines and be consistent with the policies of the State Long Range Plan.

***State Trunkline Fund (STF):*** Portion of the gas and vehicle registration taxes administered by the MDOT for the maintenance, construction, and operation of the state Trunkline System, as established by Michigan Public Act 51 of 1951.

***State Trunkline Highway System:*** Highways under the jurisdiction of the Michigan Department of Transportation consisting of all "I", "US" and "M" designated routes.

***Substructure:*** All of that part of a structure below the structure surface.

***Surface Transportation Program (STP):*** A Federal-aid program that provides funds for Federal-aid highways, bridge, road and transit capital projects.

***Streetscape:*** Streetscape projects replace plain concrete downtown sidewalks with decorative paving which usually includes the use of concrete brick pavers. Openings in the pavement allow for shade trees and iron tree grates. Other amenities may include tree guards, bike racks, benches, planters, and trash receptacles.

***Transportation Enhancement Program:*** A competitive grant program administered by MDOT and authorized by TEA-21 that sets aside 10% of each state's Surface Transportation Program for Transportation Enhancement activities such as landscaping, bicycle paths, historic preservation, and highway storm water run-off mitigation.

***Transportation Equity Act for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (TEA-21):*** The federal law effective June of 1998 authorizing highway, highway safety, transit, and other surface transportation programs for six years. The legislation builds on the initiatives of ISTEA with new programs to improve safety, protect and enhance communities and the environment and advance economic growth and competitiveness. The Equity in the title refers to guaranteed funding levels based on receipts to the Highway Trust Fund and more funding for donor states such as Michigan.

***Transportation Improvement Program (TIP):*** A three year document prepared by each MPO to provide a public listing of road and transit projects to be implemented within the designated three

year period and demonstrate there are sufficient new resources available to start those projects.

**Trunkline:** Term used to identify those portions of the road under the jurisdiction of the MDOT. See State Trunkline Highway System.

**Urbanized Areas (UZA):** Areas with a population of 50,000 or more as designated by the U.S. Bureau of the Census. Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) approved, adjusted urbanized area boundaries include the designated area plus any shopping, employment centers, and other trip generators near the edge of the urbanized areas.

**USDOT:** The United States Department of Transportation.

**Walkways:** Pedestrian facilities such as sidewalks, overpasses, and skywalks.